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SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. 17 SEPT. 53,

SUBJECT Tkvarcheli Coal Mines

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. [redacted] the Tkvarcheli Coal Mines Trust had under its administration five operating coal mines. According to expansion plans, construction of a sixth mine started in 1950; this mine was to be put in operation sometime in 1953 - 1954. Geological exploration had been begun at the seventh mine which was scheduled for operation in 1955 - 1956. All these mines were located in the Tkvarcheli Valley and contained black stone coal of very high quality fit for coking purposes. 25X1
2. Names and locations of mines of the Tkvarcheli Coal Mines Trust:
 - a. Coal Mine # 1 (Shakhta Nomer 1), on the southern bank of the Galizga River, in the settlement Akarmara (approximately 600 m. from the settlement Dzhantukha, which was headquarters for the Trust's administration). Mine # 1 was put into operation in the early thirties.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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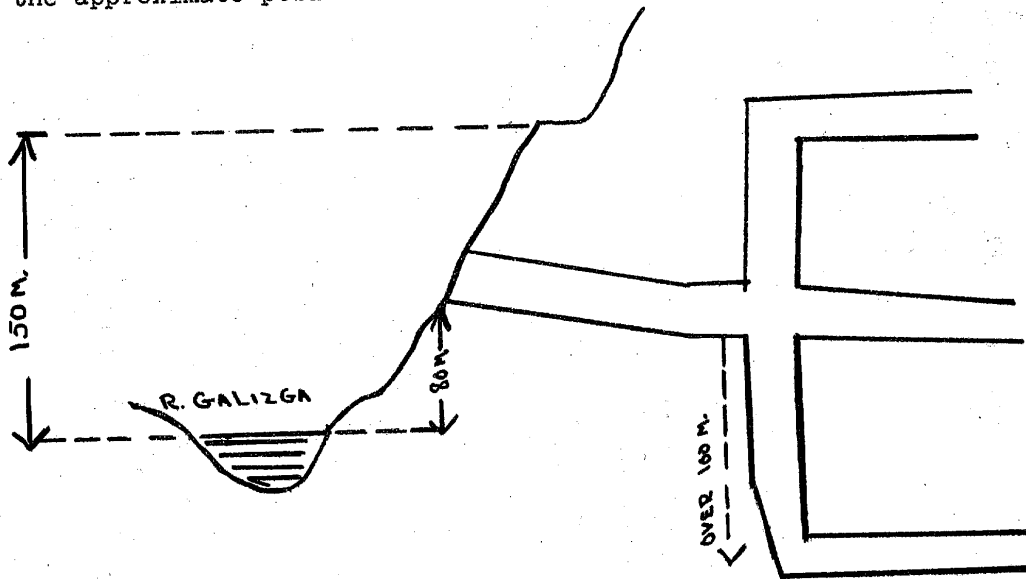
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- b. Coal Mines # 2 and # 3, in the settlement Kheligvara on the southern bank of the Galizga River. Mine # 2 was put into operation around 1946, and Mine # 3 in 1951.
 - c. Coal Mine # 4, in the settlement Akhilbara on the southern bank of the Galizga River. This mine was put into operation in 1949.
 - d. Coal Mine # 5, in the settlement "Shakhta Pyat'". This mine was located south of the settlement Kheligvara and was probably put into operation at the end of 1950.
 - e. Coal Mine # 6 located opposite the settlement "Verkhniye Istochniki" on the eastern bank of the Galizga River. This mine was scheduled to be opened in 1955.
 - f. Coal Mine # 7, to the north of Coal Mine # 6, about 25 km. from Kvezani, which was the trans-loading railroad station for all Tkvarcheli coal mines. Mine # 7 was scheduled for operation in 1957.
3. Coal Mine # 1 was located under the surface of a high hill with the main entry on the northern slope of the hill. The sketch below shows the approximate position of this mine and its main entrances:



The average daily production of this coal mine was approximately 400 t., or 150,000 t. annually. Work was done in three eight-hour shifts, 24 hours a day. The mine employed approximately 600 workers, of whom 500 worked underground.

the equipment used in this mine, was well mechanized. The main piece of equipment was a Universal Machine called a "combine", which did the cutting, previously done by a coal cutter (vrubmashina), breaking of coal face, loading on belt transporter, and taking the coal to the conveyor or railroad lines. Coal Mine # 1 had a narrow gauge railroad line and several trolley locomotives which carried coal to the main entrance, where it was trans-loaded into cable cars which took the coal to the Kvezani RR

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station. [redacted] this coal mine had several coal seams but their thickness was not more than one meter. The deepest shaft, [redacted] was below the level of the Galizga River and over 100 m. below the level of the main shaft. [redacted] the loader work norm was eight cubic meters of coal in an eight-hour shift. If a miner fulfilled the monthly norm, he earned 1,000 rubles. Many miners used to over-fulfill their norms and received 1,500, 2,000, or even 3,000 rubles monthly.

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4. Coal Mine # 2 was located under the surface similarly to Coal Mine # 1. It was connected underground with Mine # 1, and they had a common ventilation system. The average daily production of this mine was approximately 300 t. (100,000 annually). It employed about 400 workers, of whom 350 worked underground. Equipment, machinery, and organization of transport work norms and wages were similar to those of Coal Mine # 1. The entire output of the first and second Tkvarcheli coal mines had been taken over by the Georgian Republic Thermal Power Plant (GRES) located in the settlement Levyi Bereg. The sale was effected through Uglesbyt [redacted] and the selling price was 110 rubles per ton.

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5. Coal Mine # 3 was located under the surface of a hill similarly to coal mines # 1 and # 2. Production, equipment, and other characteristics were similar to those of Coal Mine # 2. [redacted] coal from this mine was supposed to be shipped to the Rustavi Foundry (Metallurgicheskii zavod), 25 km. east of Tbilisi.

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6. Coal Mine # 4 was only half underground. The surface coal, after the layer of earth was removed, was mined by bulldozers and loaded directly onto the cable cars which took it to the Kvezani Coal Processing Plant. Mining methods underground were similar to those described in Mine # 1. The annual production of this coal mine was probably around 100,000 t. [redacted] All other data was similar to that for Mine # 1. Most of the output of this mine was shipped to the Rustavi Foundry.

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7. Coal Mine # 5 was located under the surface in a high hill. Shafts, equipment, machinery and all other characteristics of this mine were very similar to Coal Mine # 1. [redacted] No information on output.

8. [redacted]

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9. Coal preparation was done in Kvezani in the settlement Levyi Bereg, where the central coal processing plant (Tsentral'naya obogatitel'naya fabrika - TsOF) for all Tkvarcheli Coal Mines was located. There rocks were eliminated from the coal and it was washed. [redacted]

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